

Appl. No. 09/488,728
Amdt. and Reply dated August 4, 2005
Resp. to OA, dated February 24, 2005

1. **Amendment to the Specification**

Please replace the Title of the Invention at page 1 with the following:

~~METHOD OF REGULATING NITRIC OXIDE PRODUCTION~~ Methods of Treating
Ulcerative Colitis and Crohn's Disease Using IL-17 Receptor Proteins.

Kindly replace the paragraph at page 4 beginning at line 17 of the original specification with the following (Note – the Examiner describes this paragraph as being at page 4 and the sentence “Soluble IL-17R comprises the signal peptide and the extracellular domain (residues 1 to 320 of SEQ ID NO:3....” being at lines 9-10):

The nucleotide and predicted amino acid sequence of the human IL-17R is shown in SEQ ID NOs:3 and 4. It shares many features with the murine IL-17 R. Computer analysis indicated that the protein has an N-terminal signal peptide with a cleavage site between amino acid 27 and 28. Those skilled in the art will recognize that the actual cleavage site may be different than that predicted by computer analysis. Thus, the N-terminal amino acid of the cleaved peptide is expected to be within about five amino acids on either side of the predicted cleavage site. The signal peptide is followed by a 293 amino acid extracellular domain, a 21 amino acid transmembrane domain, and a 525 amino acid cytoplasmic tail. Soluble IL-17R comprises the signal peptide and the extracellular domain (residues 1 to 320 of SEQ ID NO:4 [[3]]) or a fragment thereof. Alternatively, a different signal peptide can be substituted for the native signal peptide.